

The China Mail.

Established February, 1845.

VOL. XLIV. No. 7626.

英一千八百八十八年正月十三日

HONGKONG, MONDAY, JANUARY 30, 1888.

亥年二十月八日

PRICE, \$2 PER MONTH.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—R. ALMAY, 11 & 12, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, E.C.—GEORGE STREET & CO., 30, Cornhill, GOLSON & GOTCH, 1, Middle Temple, E.C.—DANIEL HENRY & CO., 27, Walbrook, E.C.—SAMUEL DEADERICK & CO., 150 & 154, Leadenhall Street, E.C.—W. M. WILLS, 161, Cannon Street, E.C.—AMERI PRINCE & CO., 33, Rue Lafayette, Paris.—NEW YORK.—ANDREW WIND, 21, Park Row.—SAN FRANCISCO and American Ports generally.—BEAN & BLACK, San Francisco.—AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.—GORDON & GOTCH, Melbourne and Sydney.—CEYLON.—W. M. SMITH & CO., THE APOTHECARY CO., Colombo.—SINGAPORE, STRAITS, &c.—SAVILLE & CO., Square, Singapore, C. HINNEMAN & CO., Manila.—CHINA.—Macao, F. A. de CHUE, Souto, Quelton & Co., Amoy, N. MOULLE, Foochow, HEDGES & CO., Shanghai, LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., and KELLY & WATSON, Yokohama, LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., and KELLY & CO.

BANKS.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, \$7,500,000
RESERVE FUND, \$3,900,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PRO-
PRIETORS, \$7,500,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS.
Chairman—Hon. JOHN BELL IRVING.
Deputy Chairman—W. H. FORBES, Esq.
C. D. BOTTOMLEY, Hon. A. P. McEWEN,
Esq.
S. C. MICHAELIS,
W. G. BROWN, Esq.
H. L. DALMATTIE, J. S. MOSES, Esq.
Esq.
H. HOPKINS, Esq.
B. LAYTON, Esq.

Chief Manager,
Hongkong, Thomas JACKSON, Esq.
Manager,
Shanghai, Ewen CAMERON, Esq.
London Bankers—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG:
INTEREST ALLOWED,
On Current Deposit, Account at the rate
of 2 per cent. per annum on the daily
balance.

On Fixed Deposits—
For 3 months, 3 per cent. per annum
" 6 " 4 per cent. " "
" 12 " 6 per cent. " "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.
Credits granted on approved Securities,
and every description of Banking and
Exchange business transacted.

Drafts drawn on London, and the
chief Commercial places in Europe, India,
Australia, America, China and Japan.

T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager,
Hongkong, January 25, 1888. 363

NOTICE.
RULES OF THE HONGKONG SAVINGS' BANK.

1.—The business of the above Bank will
be conducted by the Hongkong and
Shanghai Banking Corporation, on their
premises in Hongkong. Business hours
on week-days, 10 to 1; Saturdays, 10
to 1.

2.—Sums less than \$1. or more than \$250
at one time will not be received. No
depositor may deposit more than \$2,500
in any one year.

3.—Depositors in the Savings' Bank having
\$100. or more at their credit may at
their option transfer the same to the
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Cor-
poration on fixed deposit for 12 months
at 5 per cent. per annum interest.

4.—Interest at the rate of 3 per cent. per
annum will be allowed to depositors on
their daily balances.

5.—Each Depositor will be supplied gratis
with a Pass-Book, which must be pre-
sented with each payment or with-
drawal. Depositors must not make
any entries themselves in their Pass-
Books but should send them to be
written up at least twice a year, about
the beginning of January and begin-
ning of July.

6.—Correspondence to the business of
the Bank if marked. On Hongkong
Savings' Bank Business is forwarded free
by the various British Post Offices in
Hongkong and China.

7.—Withdrawals may be made on demand,
but the personal attendance of the
depositor or his duly appointed agent,
and the production of his Pass-Book
are necessary.

For the
HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING
CORPORATION,
T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager,
Hongkong, September 1, 1888. 754

NOTICES OF FIRMS.

NOTICE.

THE Interest and Responsibility of
Mr. ALFRED TIDSWELL DUVAL
in our Firm ceased on the 31st December,
1887.

DEACON & CO.,
Canton, 7th January, 1888. 45

NOTICE.

WE have authorized Mr. GUSTAV
DEGEN, to sign our
Firms by Procurator from this date, in
Hongkong and China.

CARLOWITZ & CO.,
Hongkong, January 1, 1888. 3

NOTICE.

MR. M. GROTE has this day been
admitted a Partner in our Firm,
CHATER & VERNON,
Hongkong, January 1, 1888. 5

NOTICE.

THE Interest and Responsibility of
Mr. RICHARD SCHONBERGER
in our Firm ceased on the 31st December,
1887.

KRUSE & CO.,
Hongkong, January 26, 1888. 133

NOTICES OF FIRMS.

NOTICE.

WE have closed the Foochow Branch
of our Firm on the 31st ultimo, and
transferred our business at that port to
Mr. GUSTAV SIEMSEN.

SIEMSEN & CO.,
Hongkong, January 28, 1888.

NOTICE.

I have this day established myself
at this port as Merchant and Commis-
sion Agent under the name and style of
G. SIEMSEN.

FOOCHOW, January 1, 1888. 149

NOTICE.

THE INTEREST and RESPONSIBILITY of
the late Mr. RICHARD VON CAR-
LOWITZ and his Heirs in our Firm ceased
on the 31st December, 1887.

CARLOWITZ & CO.,
Hongkong, January 21, 1888. 112

Intimations.

HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO
STEAMBOAT COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

ON and after this day NO FREE PAS-
AGES will be granted by any of
the Company's Steamers.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
F. HENDERSON,
Acting Secretary.

Hongkong, January 25, 1888. 127

ANDREW JOHNSTON,
Consulting Engineer,
Marine House, Queen's Road.

PLANS and ESTIMATES prepared for
LIGHT DRAUGHT STEAMERS, STEAM
LAUNCHES, MARINE ENGINES and BOILERS,
and all other kinds of MACHINERY.

A List of Steamers FOR SALE always
on hand.

The Address as above,
Hongkong, January 4, 1888. 21

DENTISTRY.

FIRST CLASS WORKMANSHIP.
MODERATE FEES.

MR. WONG TAI-FONG,
Surgeon Dentist,
(Formerly ABEGEL APPRENTICE and LAT-
TERLY ASSISTANT to Dr. ROGERS).

AT the urgent request of his European
and American patients and friends,
has TAKEN THE OFFICE formerly occ-
UPIED by Dr. ROGERS,

No. 2, DUDDELL STREET.

CONSULTATION FREE.

Discount to missionaries and families.
Sole Address

2, DUDDELL STREET.
(Next to the New Oriental Bank.)

Hongkong, January 12, 1888. 66

HONGKONG ICE COMPANY,
LIMITED.

THE Seventh Ordinary Annual MEET-
ING of SHAREHOLDERS will be held
at the Office of the Company, Pedder's
Street, on FRIDAY, the 10th
of February, at Noon, to receive a Statement
of the Accounts of the Company to the 31st
December, 1887, and the Report of the
General Managers, also to discuss any
matter that may be competently brought
before the Meeting.

The Transfer BOOKS of the Company
will be open from the 31st Instant to the
10th Proximo, both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, January 26, 1888. 137

PEAK HOTEL,
RESTAURANT, AND CAFE,
Situated at the TRAMWAY TERMINUS,
VICTORIA GAP,

1,250 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL,
Commanding Fine Views of the Harbour
and City, with a Southern Exposure,
Warm in Winter, and Constant
Breeze in Summer.

W. POWELL & CO.

LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S WARM CLOTHING.

CASHMERE AND MERINO VESTS.

CASHMERE AND MERINO COMBINATION
GARMENTS.

CASHMERE HOSE, all sizes and colours.

KNITTED WOOL PETTICOATS.

KNITTED WOOL VESTS AND JACKETS.

WOOL SHAWLS AND HOODS.

KNITTED GAITERS AND BOOTS.

WOOL HATS AND TAM O' SHANTERS.

FELT AND STRIPE PETTICOATS.

&c., &c., &c.

CONSULTATION FREE.

DISCOUNTS to missionaries and families.

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KNITTED WOOL VESTS AND JACKETS.

WOOL SHAWLS AND HOODS.

KNITTED GAITERS AND BOOTS.

Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL,
CITY HALL.
THE HONG-KONG CHORAL
SOCIETY
GILBERT & SULLIVAN'S OPERETTA
"THE SORCERER,"
ON
T H U R S D A Y,
9th February, at 9 o'clock p.m.
Tickets may be obtained from Messrs.
Lane, Charnon & Co., and after Wed-
nesday, 1st February, at 9 a.m. Price, 82.
R. LYALL,
Acting Hon. Secretary
Hongkong, January 28, 1888.

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To-day's Advertisements.

To-day's Advertisements.

FOR SHANGHAI.

The Steamship
Nippon,
Captain F. SCHULZ, will
be despatched for the
above Port on WEDNESDAY, the 1st
February, at 4 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
SIEMSEN & Co.,
Hongkong, January 30, 1888.

158

NAVIGAZIONE GENERALE
ITALIANA
(FLORIO & RUBATTINO UNITED COMPANIES)

STEAM FOR
SINGAPORE, PENANG & BOMBAY,
Having connection with Company's Mail
Sailors to ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID,
MESSINA, NAPLES, (LEGHORN),
and GENOA; all MEDITERRANEAN
PORTS, DEVONPORT, &
CUTHAMPTON
CAN Ports, up to CALICO. Taking cargo
at through rates to PERSIAN GULF
and BAGDAD.

The Co.'s Steamship
Stura,
Capt. DE MARCHI, will be
despatched as above on
TUESDAY, the 7th February, at 10 a.m.

At BOMBAY the Steamers are discharging
in PRINCE'S DOCKS.

For further particulars regarding Freight
and Passage, apply to

CARLOWITZ & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, January 30, 1888.

159

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN LLOYD'S
STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM FOR
SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO,
BOMBAY, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT
SAID, BRINDISI AND TRIESTE.
Taking cargo at through rates to CALI-
GUTTA, MADRAS, PERSIAN
GULF, BLACK SEA, LEVANT and
ADRIATIC PORTS.)

The Co.'s Steamship
Amphitrite,
Capt. G. GEMELEN, will be
despatched as above on
FRIDAY, the 10th Next, at Noon.

For further particulars regarding Freight
and Passage, apply to the AGENCY of the
Company, Praya Central.

O. BACHRACH,
Agent.

Hongkong, January 30, 1888.

155

AUCTION SALE OF HORSES.

NOTICE is hereby given that on the 8th
of March proximo, there will be at
the Cavalry Quarter of Hanoi, Tonkin,
a PUBLIC AUCTION SALE of 40 ARABIAN
HORSES and 4 HORSES OF FRENCH
BREED.

By Order,

WM. EDWARD CROW,
Honorary Secretary to
Sanitary Board.

Hongkong, 27th January, 1888.

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SANITARY NOTIFICATION.

SMALL-POX.

THE SANITARY BOARD desire to urge on
the public the necessity, for the purpose
of disinfection, of Steaming all Bed-
clothes and Wearing Apparel, used by
persons suffering from SMALL-POX, in boiling
water for at least 15 minutes before allowing
such Articles to go to the wash.

By Order,

WM. EDWARD CROW,
Honorary Secretary to
Sanitary Board.

Hongkong, 27th January, 1888.

163

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

THE following Particulars of SALE of
CROWN LAND by PUBLIC AUCTION,
to be held on the Spot, on MONDAY, the
6th day of February, 1888, at 4.30 p.m., are
published for general information.

By Command,

FREDERICK STEWART,
Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
Hongkong, 28th January, 1888.

161

Particulars of the Letting by Public
Auction Sale, to be held on MONDAY, the
6th day of February, 1888, at 4.30 p.m., by Order of His Excellency the
Governor, of One Lot of Crown Land,
in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term
of 75 years.

Particulars of the Lot.

No. of Sale	Registry No.	Locality.	Boundary Measure- ments route.	Surface area sq. m.	Contents sq. m.	Up- per part sq. m.
1	Building of Mount Lot No. 65	South side of Mount Gough	420,320,254	64,715,500	262,2160	

160

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION
COMPANY, LIMITED.FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND
SINGAPORE.THE Company's Steamship *Wingking*,
having arrived from the above
Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby
requested to send in their Bills of Lading to
the Undersigned for countersignature, and
to take immediate delivery of their Goods
from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge will be
at once landed and stored at Con-
signees' risk and expense.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, January 30, 1888.

153

GERMAN BARQUE *DOROTHEA*, Capt.
MOLLE, FROM HAMBURG.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above
Vessel are hereby requested to send
in their Bills of Lading to the Undersigned
for countersignature, and to take immediate
delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge will be
at once landed and stored at Con-
signees' risk and expense.

SIEMSEN & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, January 30, 1888.

156

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

THE following Particulars of SALE of
CROWN LAND by PUBLIC AUCTION,
to be held on the Spot, on WEDNESDAY,
the 8th day of February, 1888, at 4 p.m.,
are published for general information.

By Command,

FREDERICK STEWART,
Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
Hongkong, 28th January, 1888.

162

Particulars of the Letting by Public
Auction Sale, to be held on WEDNESDAY,
the 8th day of February, 1888, at 4
p.m., by Order of His Excellency the
Governor, of Two Lots of Crown Land,
in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term
of 75 years.

Particulars of the Lots.

No. of Sale	Registry No.	Locality.	Boundary Measure- ments route.	Surface area sq. m.	Contents sq. m.	Up- per part sq. m.
1	Burnt Building Lots No. 55	South side of Mount Gough	298,163,163	45,074	150,1460	

160

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,
LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND
TAIWANFOO.

The Co.'s Steamship
Thalas, Captain Hinman, will be
despatched for the above
Ports on WEDNESDAY, the 1st Feb., at
daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, January 30, 1888.

164

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

January 28, 1888.—

Decima, German steamer, 365, P. Oest-
mann, Bangkok, January 20, 1888.—SIEM-
SEN & Co.

Elster, American ship, 1,270, Allyn, New
York August 25, Kerosine Oil.—RUSSELL &
Co.

January 29.—

Cochin, British gunboat, from Canton.

Horatio, British cruiser, from Whampoa.

Teheran, British steamer, 1,771, J. H.
Seymour, Yokohama January 21, Mail
and General, 1888.—S. O. N. Co.

Sum, Siamese barque, 205, C. Lange,
Bangkok December 21, Teak.—CAPTAIN

Dorothea, German cruiser, 62, H. Th.
Mueller, Hamburg September 29, General.

January 30.—

Borneo, Dutch sloop, 120.

Amoy, British steamer, 20, General JARDINE,
MATHESON & Co.

January 31.—

British steamer *Amoy* reports: Had
moderate breeze, with rain and overcast.

The British steamer *Wingking* reports:

Left Calcutta January 14th, and touched at
Penang January 20th, and Singapore Jan.

23rd; had moderate monsoon and fine clear
weather from Singapore to port.

The British steamer *Lee Sang* reports:

Had fresh monsoon and fine weather.

The German barque *Dorothea* reports:

Left Cuxhaven September 23rd, had fine
weather down Channel, passed Lizard Oct.

4, at Madeira the ship was for 10 days be-
calmed, and on November 8th she crossed the
Line in 28 West. On November 29th, the
Dorothea crossed the prime Meridian in 38
South; on December 18th, was off the Sunda
Isles of St. Paul. On January 8th, made
Sandwich Island. On the 15th January,
passed the Line in 120 E. On 26th Jan.,
passed the Banting Channel.

SHIPPING REPORTS.

The British steamer *Amoy* reports:

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POST OFFICE NOTICES.

MAILS.

will close.—

For SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA,
SAMARANG & SURABAYA.

Per Borneo, at 11.30 a.m., on Tuesday,
the 31st inst.

For STRAITS & BOMBAY.—

For Kedah, at 2.30 p.m., on Tuesday,
the 1st February.

For SAIGON.—

For Chancellor, at 5 p.m., on Tuesday,
the 31st inst.

For SWATOW, AMOY & TAIWANFOO.

Per Thales, at 5 p.m., on Tuesday, the
31st inst.

For HOIHOW & BANGKOK.—

For Phra Chula Chao Kho, at 5 p.m., on
Tuesday, the 31st inst.

For STRAITS & CALICUTTA.—

For Kedah, at 2.30 p.m., on Wednesday,
the 1st February.

For NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA.

Per Tetheran, at 5 p.m., on Thursday,
the 2nd February.

For SINGAPORE.—

Per Bellona, at 9 a.m., on Sunday,
the 5th February.

MAILS BY THE BRITISH PACKET.—

The British Contract Packet *Fesdawur*

will be despatched on WEDNESDAY,

the 1st Inst., with M

THE CHINA MAIL.

SUPREME COURT.
IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.
(Before Mr A. J. Leach, Acting Prime
Judge.)

Monday, January 30.

A LITTLE after eleven o'clock on the night of the 18th inst. fire broke out in the back premises of the saloon known as the Cosmopolitan Hotel, Yokohama. By three o'clock the copious streams of water, which were played upon the burning buildings from hydrants and fire engines had produced the desired effect and the fire was well in hand, after leaving nothing of the Occidental Hotel and the adjoining building but a few broken walls and a mass of smouldering woodwork. The damage done by the fire must have been very considerable. Mr. Ramage, the proprietor of the Occidental Hotel and adjoining house, had, we understand, an insurance of \$8,000 on the buildings only, in the South British Insurance Co. of New Zealand, while his furniture and stock were not insured at all, and there can be little doubt he will be heavy loser. Mr. Essahib's godown contained a quantity of ivory and drugs and the greater part of the latter were either destroyed or damaged. The contents of the godown were insured for \$4,000 only with Messrs. Jacobs & Matheson's Agency; nothing like the full value.

The *Kuling*, the pioneer steamer of the Upper Yangtze Steam Navigation Company, made her official trial trip at Shanghai, under the command of Captain Barnes, the other day. There was a large party of visitors, including several ladies on board, and the nautical and engineering talent of Shanghai were represented, the captain of the P. & O. steamer *Balaclava*, and of the Messageries steamer *Sind* being among the guests, as well as the captains and engineers of several of the Coast steamers in port, and the superintending engineers of the chief local lines. The tide was ebb when the collision was made on 28th October about the collision, and the loss of a junk. Ho Aku was the person who made the report. He said he was the master of the junk and that the steam launch *Li-Wen* ran into it and sunk it. He also said there was a seaman missing. Inspector Brammer was present at the time. Witness stated in the course of his report: -

2. - **COERCIVE NOTIFICATION.**
On the 13th December the draft of a proposed Bye-law to be made under section 13 of Ordinance 7 of 1883, for making the notification of small-pox compulsory, was drawn up and circulated for the favourable consideration of the Members of the Sanitary Board. This regulation, which met with the unanimous approval of the Board, received the sanction of the Governor in Council on the 17th ultimo, and was forthwith published in English and Chinese in the newspapers and further promulgated by the distribution of posters and handbills throughout the Colony.

The issuing of this new Bye-law has enabled the staff to obtain precise information as to the course of the outbreak and to take steps for the disinfection of premises that could not possibly have been done in the absence of compulsory notification.

3. - **VACCINATION.**
The Sub-Committee of the Sanitary Board appointed on the 21st of December to consider this matter, and consisting of the following: - The Colonial Surgeon, Dr Patrick Manson, Dr James Canfield, the Registrar-General, and the undersigned, met the next day at the Alice Memorial Hospital and resolved: -

1. That vaccination stations be established at the Government Civil Hospital, the Alice Memorial Hospital, and another in the Wan-tai district, and that the Tung-Wah Hospital authorities be invited to conduct vaccinations daily.

2. That a sum of money be set aside to be used, if necessary, for rewarding parents who might be willing to bring their children for the removal of vaccine after a successful operation.

3. That the community be informed by proclamation in English, Portuguese, and Chinese of the places and hours of vaccination as soon as arrangements could be completed for securing the necessary supplies of vaccine lymph.

In order to give effect to the recommendations of the Sub-Committee, letters were despatched to the Colonial Secretary, the Honorary Secretary of the Alice Memorial Hospital, and to the Committee of the Tung-wah Hospital, and after receiving favourable reports in support of the Sub-Committee's recommendations, a sum of \$500 was lodged at both the Civil and Alice Memorial Hospitals to be used for inducing parents to bring their children for vaccination. The Inspectors are enjoined to supply whatever disinfectants may be required, and to impress on those in charge of the sick the necessity of maintaining the strictest isolation.

A notification in English, Portuguese, and Chinese requesting the public to inform the undersigned of the earliest day on which a room vacated by a patient can be fumigated and disinfected has also been issued.

Menon might here make of the fact that the bedding and clothing used by patients in the Government Small-pox Hospital is effectively disinfected and washed within the precincts of the Hospital, and that such bedding and clothing when unfit for use is burnt. - I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

CHINESE LITERATI AND WESTERN SCIENCE.

THE PRIZE ESSAY SCHEME.

The Prize Essay Scheme started in connection with the Chinese Polytechnic Institution and Reading Rooms has now been in full operation for two years. Its general object is to try and induce the Chinese literati to investigate the various departments of Western knowledge with the view to their application in the Middle Kingdom.

This scheme is based upon the popular system of writing essays in a high style of composition, in which art the Chinese are known to excel in an extraordinary degree.

Every native of any pretensions to scholarship must be able to write and understand an elaborate essay on any given subject.

The Government examinations, on which all official positions are supposed to depend consist almost wholly of essay writing.

Hence the art carried on from century to century, has now reached a degree of perfection which is never thought of now-a-days at any rate in Western lands.

To popularise Western knowledge among the literati it is necessary to take advantage of all such existing national characteristics; and hence it was conceived that an essay writing there existed a most powerful means for inducing the better classes of Chinese to read, think, and write on foreign subjects of practical utility, and thus carry out one of the main objects for which the Polytechnic Institution was founded.

The result has shown that this view of things was a sound and correct one. The scheme has succeeded to a degree far beyond the expectations of its originators, and the Polytechnic Institution has thus made its influence felt far and wide not only among the students of literature, but among the higher class of officials in whose valuable co-operation and personal interest much of the success is due.

The general working of the scheme is easily understood. A high official is asked to give a subject on which prize essays are invited, and to promise not only to look over the essays himself but to bestow certain sums of money upon the most successful essayists in addition to the regular quarterly amount of Tls. 25 voted by the funds of the Institution for this special purpose. Every quarter a fresh subject is announced in the native newspapers, and a date is fixed after which no essay will be received. The bundle of essays is then forwarded to the co-operating official, who reads them carefully over and adjudicates their order of merit, marking a criticism of greater or less length in his own handwriting, pointing out the features of excellence or defect in each. At a fixed date the successful essayists, whose names have previously been advertised in the native papers, repay to the Polytechnic Institution in person or by proxy and receive their prizes. These receive the highest awards and ten or more successive smaller sums. The essay is given to the native newspapers which are only too glad to get them to help fill up their columns. At the end of each year the three highest names for each quarter are honoured by having their essays, with the criticism, printed in the form of a book, complimentary copies of which are sent to co-operating high officials and successful essay writers; the remainder of the edition being placed on sale to recoup printing expenses and thus cause no loss to the Institution.

The yearly volume for 1886-7 has now been on sale some time. It consists of twelve essays occupying 160 closely-printed pages and is sold at 25 cents per copy at the Institution or at the Chinese Scientific Book Depot in the Hunkow Road. The following is a rough sketch of the subjects assumed. It will be noticed that the first quarter's subject was more of a historical or military character than was asked for or expected from the Shanghai Taotai; but it was thought best not to refuse it on that account.

Spring quarter. Subject: - Ch'en-tang and Kien-yen. (Two famous generals of the Han dynasty whose doings and policy are to be compared.) Given by H. E. Shao, Taotai of Shanghai. Extra award, Tls. 15.

Summer quarter. Subject: - A discourse on the Naval defences of China. Given by H. E. Hauch, Taotai of Ningpo. Extra award, Tls. 24.

Autumn quarter. Subject: - What ought China at the present time to regard as of the foremost importance in her endeavours to improve in wealth and power. Given by H. E. Chow, Custom Taotai of Tientsin. Extra award, Tls. 15.

Winter quarter. Subject: - What advantages and disadvantages would China realize by the establishment of railways. Given by H. E. Kung, Taotai of Shanghai. Extra award, Tls. 15.

The yearly volume for 1886-7 will not be ready until the end of the Spring term at the earliest. The subjects are as follows:

Spring quarter. Subject: - Compare the Sciences of China and of the West, showing their points of difference and similarity. Given by H. E. Hsi, Taotai of Hangchow. Extra award, Tls. 18.

Summer quarter. Subject: - How can the arts attending the introduction of telegraphs and steamboats in China be removed and the benefits rendered permanent. Given by H. E. Shao, Taotai of Choochow. Extra award, Tls. 20.

Autumn quarter. Subject: - What is the cause of the present unprofitable state of the trade in silk and tea, and how can the difficulties be remedied. Given by H. E. Hauch, Taotai of Ningpo. Extra award, Tls. 24.

Winter quarter. Subject: - To be given by H. E. Chang, Taotai of Shantung. Not yet issued.

The following officials will be asked to give the subject for 1888-9 - Spring:

H. E. Hsi, Taotai of Tientsin. Summer:

H. E. Kung, Taotai of Shanghai. Autumn:

H. E. Hauch, Taotai of Ningpo. Winter:

H. E. Shao, Taotai of Hangchow.

It is not to be supposed that in a country where there are so many poor and ready scholars who are versed in every possible kind of trickery, by which money is to be obtained, a scheme of this kind will not be subject to attempts to obtain prizes by unfair or questionable means. One man, as an instance, went round among all his friends who were competing for a prize and got them in the course of conversation to say what they had written or let him see their rough drafts. Combining the best of the ideas thus gathered he was able to write three essays under different names, each of which gained an inferior prize. Other tricks have been found out which are equally or still more disreputable, and which will require much vigilance to prevent.

In conclusion it may be claimed that as a mere experiment this prize essay scheme is a success. It is the insertion of the thin edge of a wedge that may eventually succeed in great work yet remains to be accomplished.

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7.00 " 7.00 " 7.00 " 7.00 "

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